

Message Text

PAGE 01 PARIS 14212 221953 Z

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 ACDA-19 MC-02 RSR-01 (ADP) W

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P 221807 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 063

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USDEL JEC PARIS 14212

E. O. 11652: N/ A, DECON 5/22/74

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJ: GVN- PRG BILATERALS: 12 TH PLENARY SESSION, MAY 22, 1973

1. (SUMMARY) THE TALKS CONTINUED TO MARK TIME, WITH EACH SIDE CONTINUING SHARPLY WORDED CRITICISM OF THE OTHER' S POSITIONS AND POLICIES. VIEN (GVN) ACCUSED THE PRG OF SEEKING A TRIPLE PARTITION OF VN AND DERIDED COMMUNIST USE OF THE TERM " THIRD FORCE". AFTER THE RITUAL ATTACK ON ALLEGED US- GVN VIOLATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT HIEU (PRG) GAVE A DETAILED DENUNCIATION OF GVN INTERNAL POLICIES. EACH SIDE REITERATED ITS PREVIOUS PROPOSALS, THE GVN CALLING FOR TRANSITION OF DISCUSSIONS FROM PLENARY TO FOUR- COMMITTEE FORMAT, THE PRG DEMANDING IMMEDIATE APPLICATION OF CONCRETE MEASURES TO PERMIT SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS. PRESS CONFERENCES ONLY PROVIDED MORE OF THE SAME RHETORIC. (END SUMMARY).

2. DEPUTY PRIMIN VIEN, CHIEF GVN DELEGATE, SPOKE FIRST. REPEATING THE GVN PROPOSAL OF MAY 17, VIEN AGREED THAT THE PLENARIES SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AND ALL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS DISCUSSED BY FOUR COMMITTEES CHARGED WITH SPECIFIC TASKS. HE DENOUNCED THE " HYPOCRISY" OF PRG TACTICS BY FURNISHING A LONG LIST OF DISPARITIES BETWEEN
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PAGE 02 PARIS 14212 221953 Z

PRG PROTESTS AT PARIS AND ITS PRACTICES IN SVN.

3. VIEN SINGLED OUT TWO PRG POSITIONS FOR SPECIAL CRITICISM. HE ACCUSED THE PRG OF SEEKING PARTITION OF THE VIETNAMESE

NATION INTO THREE STATES, A PRECEDENT WHICH COULD LEAD TO PROLIFERATION OF " ADMINISTRATIONS" REMINISCENT OF THE ANCIENT " TWELVE FEUDEL DOMAINS". THE OTHER SIDE'S USE OF THE TERM " THIRD FORCE", VIEN CONTINUED, WAS CYNICAL AND SELF- SEEKING. THE SO- CALLED " THIRD FORCE" WAS ACTUALLY " ONLY DIVIDED SMALL GROUPS WITHOUT TIES, WITHOUT LEADER- SHIP, REPRESENTING NO PART OF THE POPULATION WHATSOEVER". THIS BORE NO RELATIONSHIP TO THE AGREEMENT'S REFERENCE TO " THIRD COMPONENT", ABOUT WHICH THE GVN WAS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PRG.

4. HIEU (PRG) DEVOTED THE FIRST PART OF HIS PREPARED STATEMENT TO THE USUAL DIATRIBE AGAINST US- GVN " VIOLATIONS" OF THE AGREEMENT. IN A LENGTHY ANALYSIS OF GVN DOMESTIC POLICY, NEVER MENTIONING PRES. THIEU BY NAME BUT ONLY BY TITLE, HE ACCUSED THE GVN OF ENTRENCHING ITSELF AS A MILITARY DICTATORSHIP, WITH US CONNIVANCE. HIEU MENTIONED A MAY 20 SPEECH BY PRES. THIEU, TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GVN MUST RELY ON ITS ARMED FORCES RATHER THAN ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, IN EVIDENCE OF HIS CONTENTIONS.

5. IN CLOSING HIEU REPEATED THE PRG DEMANDS OF APRIL 25, FOR IMMEDIATE APPLICATION OF CONCRETE MEASURES: AN EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE, DELINEATION OF RESPECTIVE ZONES, FALLBACK TO POSITIONS HELD PRIOR TO JAN 28, RELEASE OF CIVILIAN DETAINEES, AND RESTORATION OF FULL DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS. THEREAFTER THE TWO SVN PARTIES COULD DISCUSS FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION COUNCIL AND OTHER POLITICAL PROBLEMS.

6. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS. IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE MAY 30.

7. IN THE POST- SESSION PRESS CONFERENCES SAU (PRG) WENT OVER MUCH OF THE ANTI- GVN MATERIAL HIEU PRESENTED. SAU SAID THAT VIEN HAD TRIED FOUR TIMES TO ADJOURN THE SESSION DURING HIEU ' S PRESENTATION, BUT THE LATTER HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 03 PARIS 14212 221953 Z

IGNORED THESE ATTEMPTS. SAU DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE KISSINGER- THO MEETINGS.

8. DAN (GVN) ACCUSED THE PRG OF CONDUCTING THREE MONTHS OF " FILIBUSTERS" (SIC). THE PRG DEMANDS FOR CONCRETE MEASURES IN THE MILITARY SPHERE WERE PROPERLY THE WORK OF THE TPJMC, WHILE THE POLITICAL MEASURES COULD NOT YET BE DISCUSSED AT LA CELLE BECAUSE OF PRG OBSTRUCTIONISM. DAN CRITICIZED THE PRG FOR MAKING NO MENTION OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS, WHICH HE TERMED " KEYSTONE OF A POLITICAL SOLUTION". THIS WAS BECAUSE THE PRG FEARED THE LOSS OF IDENTITY THEY WOULD EXPERIENCE WHEN A UNIFIED SOUTHERN

ADMINISTRATION CAME INTO BEING AFTER SUCH ELECTIONS. DAN MADE
NO COMMENT ON THE US- DRV TALKS, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT SVN
POLITICAL ISSUES WERE SOLELY WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE
LA CELLE MEETINGS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS14212
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730558/abqcdzvd.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <09-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GVN- PRG BILATERALS: 12 TH PLENARY SESSION, MAY 22, 1973
TAGS: VS, PINT
To: STATE INFO SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005